TCSS 422: OPERATING SYSTEMS

CPU Scheduling, Multi-level Feedback Queue (MLFQ)

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FEEDBACK FROM 10/15

- ASIDE: Real-time operating systems: From: Real time computing Wikipedia: OS for real-time applications that process data as it comes in, typically without buffer delays.
- Assume fixed # of processes; control delay; avoid latency
- Use Case: real-time audio recording/editing
- Types:
  - **Hard**: Missing a deadline results in total system failure
  - **Firm**: Can tolerate infrequent deadline misses, degrades QoS
  - **Soft**: Usefulness of results degrades after deadlines, results in Quality of Service (QoS) degradation
- Linux: "Soft" support via low latency kernel patch
- RTLinux: hard realtime OS microkernel, runs Linux kernel

FEEDBACK - 2

- Real-time job priority in Linux:
- Linux Completely Fair Scheduler:
- Jobs scheduled with a **Real-time policy**:
- SCHED_FIFO (FF), SCHED_RR (RR)
- Not scheduled as a typical task

FEEDBACK - 3

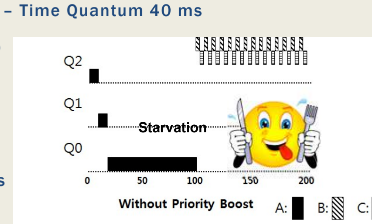
- What is a (CPU) core?
- How many do most computers have?
- What can you do with them related to threads?

MLFQ REVIEW

- Without priority boost:
- **Rule 1:** If Priority(A) > Priority(B), A runs (B doesn't).
- **Rule 2:** If Priority(A) = Priority(B), A & B run in RR.
- KEY: If time quantum of a higher queue is filled, then we don't run any jobs in lower priority queues!!!

STARVATION EXAMPLE

- **Consider 3 queues:**
- Q2 – HIGH PRIORITY – Time Quantum 10ms
- Q1 – MEDIUM PRIORITY – Time Quantum 20 ms
- Q0 – LOW PRIORITY – Time Quantum 40 ms
- Job A: 200ms no I/O
- Job B: 5ms then I/O
- Job C: 5ms then I/O
- Q2 fills, starves Q1 & Q0
- A makes no progress



EXAMPLE

- Question:
- Given a system with a quantum length of 10 ms in its highest queue, how often would you have to boost jobs back to the highest priority level to guarantee that a single long-running (and potentially starving) job gets at least 5% of the CPU?

- Some combination of n short jobs runs for a total of 10 ms per cycle without relinquishing the CPU
  - E.g. 2 jobs = 5 ms ea; 3 jobs = 3.33 ms ea, 10 jobs = 1 ms ea
  - n jobs always uses full time quantum (10 ms)
  - Batch jobs starts, runs for full quantum of 10ms
  - All other jobs run and context switch totaling the quantum per cycle
  - If 10ms is 5% of the CPU, when must the priority boost be ???
  - Priority boost occurs at every 200ms

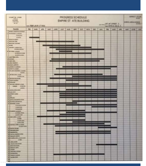
OBJECTIVES

- C Tutorial (Sunday 10/21)
- Program 1 – MASH Shell (Friday 10/26)

- **CPU Scheduling cont'd:**
- Chapter 8 – Multi-level Feedback Queue
- Chapter 9 – Proportional Share Scheduler
- Linux - Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)

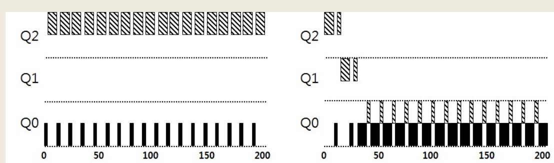
- **Multi-threaded Programming**
- Chapter 26 – Concurrency Introduction
- Chapter 27 – Linux Thread API
- Chapter 28 – Introduction to Locks

CHAPTER 8 – MULTI-LEVEL FEEDBACK QUEUE (MLFQ) SCHEDULER



PREVENTING GAMING

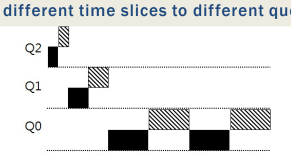
- Improved time accounting:
  - Track total job execution time in the queue
  - Each job receives a fixed time allotment
  - When allotment is exhausted, job priority is lowered



Without(Left) and With(Right) Gaming Tolerance

MLFQ: TUNING

- Consider the tradeoffs:
  - How many queues?
  - What is a good time slice?
  - How often should we "Boost" priority of jobs?
  - What about different time slices to different queues?



Example) 10ms for the highest queue, 20ms for the middle, 40ms for the lowest

MLFQ RULE SUMMARY

- The refined set of MLFQ rules:
- **Rule 1:** If Priority(A) > Priority(B), A runs (B doesn't).
- **Rule 2:** If Priority(A) = Priority(B), A & B run in RR.
- **Rule 3:** When a job enters the system, it is placed at the highest priority.
- **Rule 4:** Once a job uses up its time allotment at a given level (regardless of how many times it has given up the CPU), its priority is reduced(i.e., it moves down on queue).
- **Rule 5:** After some time period S, move all the jobs in the system to the topmost queue.

Jackson deploys a 3-level MLFQ scheduler. The time slice is 1 for high priority jobs, 2 for medium priority, and 4 for low priority. This MLFQ scheduler performs a Priority Boost every 6 timer units. When the priority boost fires, the current job is preempted, and the next scheduled job is run in round-robin order.

Job	Arrival Time	Job Length
A	T=0	4
B	T=0	16
C	T=0	8

(11 points) Show a scheduling graph for the MLFQ scheduler for the jobs above. Draw vertical lines for key events and be sure to label the X-axis times as in the example. Please draw clearly. An unreadable graph will loose points.

CHAPTER 9 - PROPORTIONAL SHARE SCHEDULER

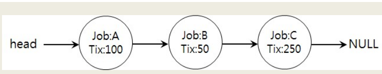
PROPORTIONAL SHARE SCHEDULER

- Also called fair-share scheduler or lottery scheduler
  - Guarantees each job receives some percentage of CPU time based on share of "tickets"
  - Each job receives an allotment of tickets
  - % of tickets corresponds to potential share of a resource
  - Can conceptually schedule any resource this way
    - CPU, disk I/O, memory

LOTTERY SCHEDULER

- Simple implementation
  - Just need a random number generator
    - Picks the winning ticket
  - Maintain a data structure of jobs and tickets (list)
  - Traverse list to find the owner of the ticket
  - Consider sorting the list for speed

LOTTERY SCHEDULER IMPLEMENTATION




```
// counter: used to track if we've found the winner yet
int counter = 0;

// winner: use some call to a random number generator to
// get a value, between 0 and the total # of tickets
int winner = getrandom(0, totaltickets);

// current: use this to walk through the list of jobs
node_t *current = head;

// loop until the sum of ticket values is > the winner
while (current) {
        counter = counter + current->tickets;
        if (counter > winner)
                break; // found the winner
        current = current->next;
}
// 'current' is the winner: schedule it...
```


TICKET MECHANISMS

- Ticket currency / exchange
  - User allocates tickets in any desired way
  - OS converts user currency into global currency
- Example:
  - There are 200 global tickets assigned by the OS

User A → *500* (A's currency) to A1 → *50* (global currency)
→ *500* (A's currency) to A2 → *50* (global currency)

User B → *10* (B's currency) to B1 → *100* (global currency)

TICKET MECHANISMS - 2

- Ticket transfer
  - Temporarily hand off tickets to another process
- Ticket inflation
  - Process can temporarily raise or lower the number of tickets it owns
  - If a process needs more CPU time, it can boost tickets.

LOTTERY SCHEDULING

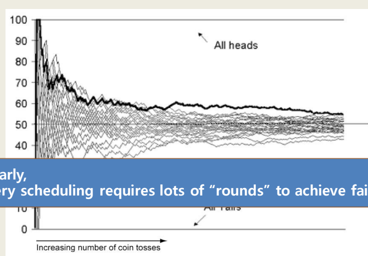
- Scheduler picks a **winning** ticket
  - Load the job with the winning ticket and run it
- Example:
  - Given 100 tickets in the pool
    - Job A has 75 tickets: 0 - 74
    - Job B has 25 tickets: 75 – 99

Scheduler's winning tickets:	63	85	70	39	76	17	29	41	36	39	10	99	68	83	63
Scheduled job:	A	B	A	A	B	A	A	A	A	A	A	B	A	B	A

- But what do we know about probability of a coin flip?

COIN FLIPPING

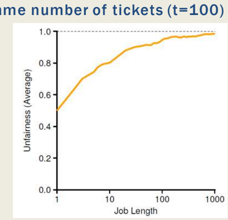
- Equality of distribution (fairness) requires a lot of flips!



Similarly,
Lottery scheduling requires lots of "rounds" to achieve fairness.

LOTTERY FAIRNESS

- With two jobs
  - Each with the same number of tickets (t=100)



When the job length is not very long,
average unfairness can be **quite severe**.

LOTTERY SCHEDULING CHALLENGES

- What is the best approach to assign tickets to jobs?
  - Typical approach is to assume users know best
  - Users are provided with tickets, which they allocate as desired
- How should the OS automatically distribute tickets upon job arrival?
  - What do we know about incoming jobs a priori ?
  - Ticket assignment is really an open problem…

STRIDE SCHEDULER

- Addresses statistical probability issues with lottery scheduling
- Instead of guessing a random number to select a job, simply count…

STRIDE SCHEDULER - 2

- Jobs have a "stride" value
  - A stride value describes the counter pace when the job should give up the CPU
  - Stride value is **inverse in proportion** to the job's number of tickets (more tickets = smaller stride)
- Total system tickets = 10,000
  - Job A has 100 tickets → A_{stride} = 10000/100 = 100 stride
  - Job B has 50 tickets → B_{stride} = 10000/50 = 200 stride
  - Job C has 250 tickets → C_{stride} = 10000/250 = 40 stride
- Stride scheduler tracks "pass" values for each job (A, B, C)

STRIDE SCHEDULER - 3

- Basic algorithm:
  1. Stride scheduler picks job with the lowest pass value
  2. Scheduler increments job's pass value by its stride and starts running
  3. Stride scheduler increments a counter
  4. When counter exceeds pass value of current job, pick a new job (go to 1)
- **KEY:** When the counter reaches a job's "PASS" value, the scheduler **passes** on to the next job...

STRIDE SCHEDULER - EXAMPLE

- Stride values
  - Tickets = priority to select job
  - Stride is inverse to tickets
  - Lower stride = more chances to run (higher priority)

Priority
C stride = 40
A stride = 100
B stride = 200

STRIDE SCHEDULER EXAMPLE - 2

- Three-way tie: randomly pick job A (all pass values=0)
- Set A's pass value to A's stride = 100
- Increment counter until > 100
- Pick a new job: two-way tie

Tickets
C = 250
A = 100
B = 50

Pass(A) (stride=100)	Pass(B) (stride=200)	Pass(C) (stride=40)	Who Runs?
0	0	0	A
100	0	0	B
100	200	0	C
100	200	40	C
100	200	80	C
100	200	120	A
200	200	120	C
200	200	160	C
200	200	200	…

Initial job selection is random. All @ 0

C has the most tickets and receives a lot of opportunities to run…

STRIDE SCHEDULER EXAMPLE - 3

- We set A's counter (pass value) to A's stride = 100
- Next scheduling decision between B (pass=0) and C (pass=0)
  - Randomly choose B
- C has the lowest counter for next 3 rounds

Tickets
C = 250
A = 100
B = 50

Pass(A) (stride=100)	Pass(B) (stride=200)	Pass(C) (stride=40)	Who Runs?
0	0	0	A
100	0	0	B
100	200	0	C
100	200	40	C
100	200	80	C
100	200	120	A
200	200	120	C
200	200	160	C
200	200	200	…

C has the most tickets and is selected to run more often …

STRIDE SCHEDULER EXAMPLE - 4

- Job counters support determining which job to run next
- Over time jobs are scheduled to run based on their priority represented as their **share of tickets…**
- **Tickets are analogous to job priority**

Tickets
C = 250
A = 100
B = 50

Pass(A) (stride=100)	Pass(B) (stride=200)	Pass(C) (stride=40)	Who Runs?
0	0	0	A
100	0	0	B
100	200	0	C
100	200	40	C
100	200	80	C
100	200	120	A
200	200	120	C
200	200	160	C
200	200	200	…

LINUX: COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER (CFS)

- Linux ≥ 2.6.23: Completely Fair Scheduler (CFS)
- Linux < 2.6.23: O(1) scheduler
- Every thread/process has a scheduling policy:
- **Normal policies**: SCHED_OTHER (TS), SCHED_IDLE, SCHED_BATCH
  - TS = Time Sharing
- **Real-time policies**: SCHED_FIFO (FF), SCHED_RR (RR)
- Show scheduling policy and priority:
- `ps -elfc`
- `ps ax -o pid,ni,cls,pri,cmd`

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COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER - 2

- Loosely based on the stride scheduler
- CFS models system as a Perfect Multi-Tasking System
  - In perfect system every process of the same priority receives exactly 1/n th of the CPU time
- Scheduling classes (runqueues)
  - Groups process of same priority across set of runqueues
  - Process priority groups use different sets of runqueues for priorities
    - Default (SCHED_OTHER) gets a set (PRI 1-99)
    - Real-time (FF,RR) separate sets (PRI 1-139)
  - Scheduler picks task with lowest accumulative runtime to run
  - Time quantum based on proportion of CPU time (%), not fixed time allotments
  - Quantum varies based on how many jobs in shared runqueue

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COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER - 3

- CFS uses weighted fair queueing
  - 1st implementation of fair queueing process scheduler in a major OS
- Runqueues are stored using a linux red-black tree
  - Self balancing binary search tree- nodes indexed by `vruntime`
  - Leftmost node has lowest `vruntime` (total execution time)
  - Walking tree to find left most node is only O(log N) for N nodes
  - Completed processes removed
  - Processes using up quantum, or interrupted reinserted *They are in READY state…*
  - This way, processes that sleep a lot (i.e. event handlers) have low vruntime, get a "priority boost" when they need to run
- Key takeaway identifying the next job to schedule is ***really*** fast!

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COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER - 4

- Time slice: Linux ***"Nice value"***
  - Nice value predates the CFS scheduler
  - Top shows nice values
  - Process command (nice & priority): `ps ax -o pid,ni,cmd,%cpu, pri`
- Nice Values: from -20 to 19
  - Lower is ***higher*** priority, default is 0
  - Scheduling quantum is calculated using nice value
  - Default: cat /proc/sys/kernel/sched_rr_timeslice_ms
  - Target latency:
    - Interval during which task should run at least once
    - Automatically increases as number of jobs increases

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COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER - 5

- Challenge:
  - How do we map a nice value to an actual CPU timeslice (ms)?
  - What is the best mapping?
    - O(1) scheduler (< 2.6.23) - tried to map nice value to timeslice (fixed allotment)
    - Linux completely fair scheduler - Nice value suggests priority used to assign runqueue for job
    - Time proportion varies based on # of jobs in runqueue - with fewer jobs in runqueue, time proportion is larger

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COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER - 6

- Nice values become relative for determining time slices
  - Proportion of CPU time to allocate is relative to other queued tasks
- Scheduler tracks virtual run time in vruntime variable
- The task on a given runqueue (nice value) with the lowest `vruntime` is scheduled next
- `struct sched_entity` contains `vruntime` parameter
  - Describes process execution time in nanoseconds
  - Perfect scheduler → achieve equal `vruntime` for all processes of same priority

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COMPLETELY FAIR SCHEDULER - 7

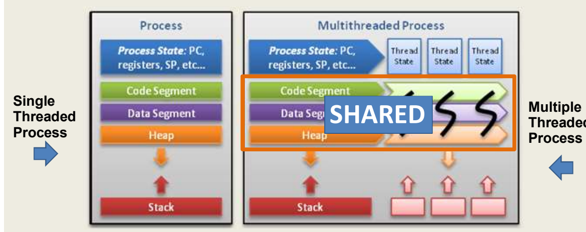
- More information:
- Man page: "man sched" : Describes Linux scheduling API
- http://manpages.ubuntu.com/manpages/bionic/man7/sched.7.html
- https://www.kernel.org/doc/Documentation/scheduler/sched-design-CFS.txt
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Completely_Fair_Scheduler
- See paper: The Linux Scheduler – a Decade of Wasted Cores
- http://www.ece.ubc.ca/~sasha/papers/eurosys16-final29.pdf

CHAPTER 26 - CONCURRENCY: AN INTRODUCTION

OBJECTIVES

- Introduction to threads
- Race condition
- Critical section
- Thread API

THREADS



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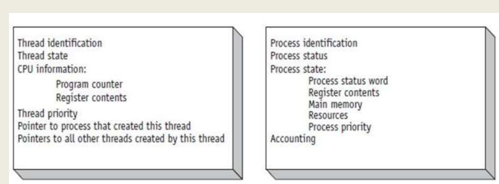
THREADS - 2

- Enables a single process (program) to have multiple "workers"
- Supports independent path(s) of execution within a program *with shared memory …*
- Each thread has its own Thread Control Block (TCB)
  - PC, registers, SP, and stack
- Code segment, memory, and heap are shared

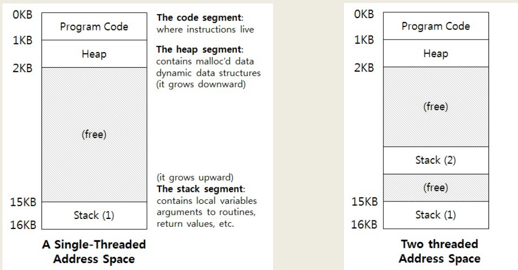
PROCESS AND THREAD METADATA

- Thread Control Block vs. Process Control Block



SHARED ADDRESS SPACE

- Every thread has it's own stack / PC



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THREAD CREATION EXAMPLE

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <assert.h>
#include <pthread.h>

void *mythread(void *arg) {
    printf("%s\n", (char *) arg);
    return NULL;
}

int
main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    pthread_t p1, p2;
    int rc;
    printf("main: begin\n");
    rc = pthread_create(&p1, NULL, mythread, "A"); assert(rc == 0);
    rc = pthread_create(&p2, NULL, mythread, "B"); assert(rc == 0);
    // join waits for the threads to finish
    rc = pthread_join(p1, NULL); assert(rc == 0);
    rc = pthread_join(p2, NULL); assert(rc == 0);
    printf("main: end\n");
    return 0;
}
```

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POSSIBLE ORDERINGS OF EVENTS

int main()	Thread 1	Thread 2
Starts running		
Prints 'main: begin'		
Creates Thread 1		
Creates Thread 2		
Waits for T1		
	Runs	
	Prints 'A'	
	Returns	
Waits for T2		
		Runs
		Prints 'B'
		Returns
Prints 'main: end'		

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POSSIBLE ORDERINGS OF EVENTS - 2

int main()	Thread 1	Thread 2
Starts running		
Prints 'main: begin'		
Creates Thread 1		
	Runs	
	Prints 'A'	
	Returns	
Creates Thread 2		
		Runs
		Prints 'B'
		Returns
Waits for T1	*Returns immediately*	
Waits for T2		*Returns immediately*
Prints 'main: end'		

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POSSIBLE ORDERINGS OF EVENTS - 3

int main()	Thread 1	Thread 2
Starts running		
Prints 'main: begin'		
Creates Thread 1		
Creates Thread 2		
Waits for T1		
	Runs	
	Prints 'A'	
	Returns	
Waits for T2		*Immediately returns*
Prints 'main: end'		

What if execution order of events in the program matters?

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COUNTER EXAMPLE

- Counter example
- A + B : ordering
- Counter: incrementing global variable by two threads

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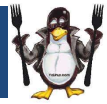
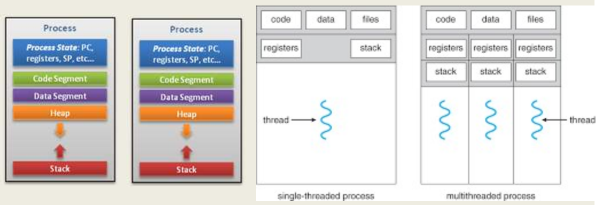
PROCESSES VS. THREADS



- What's the difference between forks and threads?
  - Forks: duplicate a process
  - Think of ***CLONING*** **-** There will be two identical processes at the end
  - Threads: no duplicate of code/heap, lightweight execution threads



RACE CONDITION

- What is happening with our counter?
  - When counter=50, consider code: counter = counter + 1
  - If synchronized, counter will = 52

OS	Thread1	Thread2	PC (after instruction)	%eax	counter
	before critical section		100	0	50
	mov 0x8049a1c, %eax		105	50	50
	add $0x1, %eax		108	51	50
interrupt					
save T1's state					
restore T2's state			100	0	50
		mov 0x8049a1c, %eax	105	50	50
		add $0x1, %eax	108	51	50
		mov %eax, 0x8049a1c	113	51	51
interrupt					
save T2's state					
restore T1's state			108	51	50
	mov %eax, 0x8049a1c		113	51	**51**

CRITICAL SECTION

- Code that accesses a shared variable must not be ***concurrently*** executed by more than one thread
- Multiple *active* threads inside a ***critical section*** produce a ***race condition***.
- ***Atomic execution*** (*all code executed as a unit*) must be ensured in ***critical*** sections
  - These sections must be ***mutually exclusive***

LOCKS

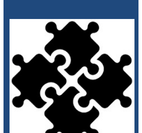
- To demonstrate how critical section(s) can be executed "atomically-*as a unit*" Chapter 27 & beyond introduce locks

```
lock_t mutex;
. . .
lock(&mutex);
balance = balance + 1;
unlock(&mutex);
```

Critical section

- Counter example revisited

CHAPTER 27 - LINUX THREAD API



THREAD CREATION

- pthread_create

```
#include <pthread.h>

int
pthread_create(      pthread_t*          thread,
                 const pthread_attr_t*   attr,
                       void*             (*start_routine)(void*),
                       void*             arg);
```

- thread: thread struct
- attr: stack size, scheduling priority… (*optional*)
- start_routine: function pointer to thread routine
- arg: argument to pass to thread routine (*optional*)

PTHREAD_CREATE – PASS ANY DATA

```
#include <pthread.h>

typedef struct __myarg_t {
        int a;
        int b;
} myarg_t;

void *mythread(void *arg) {
        myarg_t *m = (myarg_t *) arg;
        printf("%d %d\n", m->a, m->b);
        return NULL;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
        pthread_t p;
        int rc;

        myarg_t args;
        args.a = 10;
        args.b = 20;
        rc = pthread_create(&p, NULL, mythread, &args);
        …
}
```


PASSING A SINGLE VALUE

Using this approach on your Ubuntu VM, How large (in bytes) can the primitive data type be?

How large (in bytes) can the primitive data type be on a 32-bit operating system?

```
        int rc, m;
        pthread_create(&p, NULL, mythread, (void *) 100);
        pthread_join(p, (void **) &m);
        printf("returned %d\n", m);
        return 0;
}
```


WAITING FOR THREADS TO FINISH

```
int pthread_join(pthread_t thread, void **value_ptr);
```

- thread: which thread?
- value_ptr: pointer to return value
  type is dynamic / agnostic
- Returned values *must* be on the heap
- Thread stacks destroyed upon thread termination (join)
- Pointers to thread stack memory addresses are invalid
  - May appear as gibberish or lead to crash (seg fault)
- Not all threads join – ***What would be Examples ??***

What will this code do?

```
struct myarg {
  int a;
  int b;
};

void *worker(void *arg)
{
  struct myarg *input = (struct myarg *) arg;
  printf("a=%d b=%d\n",input->a, input->b);
  struct myarg output;
  output.a = 1;
  output.b = 2;
  return (void *) &output;
}

int main (int argc, char * argv[])
{
  pthread_t p1;
  struct myarg args;
  struct myarg *ret_args;
  args.a = 10;
  args.b = 20;
  pthread_
  pthread_
  printf("
  return 0;
}
```

Data on thread stack

```
$ ./pthread_struct
a=10 b=20
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
```

How can this code be fixed?

How about this code?

```
struct myarg {
  int a;
  int b;
};

void *worker(void *arg)
{
  struct myarg *input = (struct myarg *) arg;
  printf("a=%d b=%d\n",input->a, input->b);
  input->a = 1;
  input->b = 2;
  return (void *) &input;
}

int main (int argc, char * argv[])
{
  pthread_t p1;
  struct myarg args;
  struct myarg *ret_args;
  args.a = 10;
  args.b = 20;
  pthread_create(&p1, NULL, worker, &args);
  pthread_join(p1, (void *)&ret_args);
  printf("returned %d %d\n", ret_args->a, ret_args->b);
  return 0;
}
```

```
$ ./pthread_struct
a=10 b=20
returned 1 2
```


ADDING CASTS

- Casting
- Suppresses compiler warnings when passing “typed” data where (void) or (void *) is called for
- Example: uncasted capture in pthread_join

```
pthread_int.c: In function ‘main’:
pthread_int.c:34:20: warning: passing argument 2 of ‘pthread_join’
from incompatible pointer type [-Wincompatible-pointer-types]
   pthread_join(p1, &p1val);
```

- Example: uncasted return

```
In file included from pthread_int.c:3:0:
/usr/include/pthread.h:250:12: note: expected ‘void **’ but argument
is of type ‘int **’
 extern int pthread_join (pthread_t __th, void **__thread_return);
```

ADDING CASTS - 2

- pthread_join
```
int * p1val;
int * p2val;
pthread_join(p1, (void *)&p1val);
pthread_join(p2, (void *)&p2val);
```
- return from thread function
```
int * counterval = malloc(sizeof(int));
*counterval = counter;
return (void *) counterval;
```

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LOCKS

- pthread_mutex_t data type
- /usr/include/bits/pthread_types.h
```
// Global Address Space
static volatile int counter = 0;
pthread_mutex_t lock;

void *worker(void *arg)
{
  int i;
  for (i=0;i<10000000;i++)  {
    int rc = pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
    assert(rc==0);
    counter = counter + 1;
    pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
  }
  return NULL;
}
```

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LOCKS - 2

- Ensure critical sections are executed atomically-*as a unit*
  - Provides implementation of "*Mutual Exclusion*"
- API
```
int pthread_mutex_lock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
int pthread_mutex_unlock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
```
- Example w/o initialization & error checking
```
pthread_mutex_t lock;
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
x = x + 1; // or whatever your critical section is
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```
  - Blocks forever until lock can be obtained
  - Enters critical section once lock is obtained
  - Releases lock

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LOCK INITIALIZATION

- Assigning the constant
```
pthread_mutex_t lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
```
- API call:
```
int rc = pthread_mutex_init(&lock, NULL);
assert(rc == 0); // always check success!
```
- Initializes mutex with attributes specified by 2nd argument
- If NULL, then default attributes are used
- Upon initialization, the mutex is initialized and unlocked

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LOCKS - 3

- Error checking wrapper
```
// Use this to keep your code clean but check for failures
// Only use if exiting program is OK upon failure
void Pthread_mutex_lock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex) {
    int rc = pthread_mutex_lock(mutex);
    assert(rc == 0);
}
```
- What if lock can't be obtained?
```
int pthread_mutex_trylock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
int pthread_mutex_timelock(pthread_mutex_t *mutex,
                           struct timespec *abs_timeout);
```
- trylock – returns immediately (fails) if lock is unavailable
- timelock – tries to obtain a lock for a specified duration

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CONDITIONS AND SIGNALS

- Condition variables support "signaling" between threads

```
int pthread_cond_wait(pthread_cond_t *cond,
                      pthread_mutex_t *mutex);
int pthread_cond_signal(pthread_cond_t *cond);
```
- pthread_cont_t datatype
- pthread_cond_wait()
  - Puts thread to "sleep" (waits)   (THREAD is BLOCKED)
  - Threads added to FIFO queue, lock is released
  - Waits ***(listens)*** for a "signal"   (NON-BUSY WAITING, no polling)
  - When signal occurs, interrupt fires, wakes up first thread, (THREAD is RUNNING), lock is provided to thread

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CONDITIONS AND SIGNALS - 2

```
int pthread_cond_signal(pthread_cond_t * cond);
int pthread_cond_broadcast(pthread_cond_t * cond);
```

- pthread_cond_signal()
  - Called to send a "signal" to wake-up first thread in FIFO "wait" queue
  - The goal is to unblock a thread to respond to the signal
- pthread_cond_broadcast()
  - Unblocks ***all*** threads in FIFO "wait" queue, currently blocked on the specified condition variable
  - Broadcast is used when all threads should wake-up for the signal
- Which thread is unblocked first?
  - Determined by OS scheduler (based on priority)
  - Thread(s) awoken based on placement order in FIFO wait queue
  - When awoken threads acquire lock as in pthread_mutex_lock()

CONDITIONS AND SIGNALS - 3

- Wait example:

```
pthread_mutex_t lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_cond_t cond = PTHREAD_COND_INITIALIZER;

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
while (initialized == 0)
    pthread_cond_wait(&cond, &lock);
// Perform work that requires lock
a = a + b;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

- wait puts thread to sleep, releases lock
- when awoken, lock reacquired (but then released by this code)
- When initialized, another thread signals

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
initialized = 1;
pthread_cond_signal(&init);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

State variable set, Enables other thread(s) to proceed above.

CONDITION AND SIGNALS - 4

```
pthread_mutex_t lock = PTHREAD_MUTEX_INITIALIZER;
pthread_cond_t cond = PTHREAD_COND_INITIALIZER;

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
while (initialized == 0)
    pthread_cond_wait(&cond, &lock);
// Perform work that requires lock
a = a + b;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```

- Why do we wait inside a while loop?
- The while ensures upon awakening the condition is rechecked
  - A signal is raised, but the pre-conditions required to proceed may have not been met. **MUST CHECK STATE VARIABLE**
  - Without checking the state variable the thread may proceed to execute when it should not. (e.g. too early)

PTHREADS LIBRARY

- Compilation
  - gcc –pthread pthread.c –o pthread
  - Requires explicitly linking the library with compiler flag
  - Use makefile to provide compiler arguments
- List of pthread manpages
  - man –k pthread

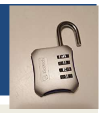
SAMPLE MAKEFILE

```
CC=gcc
CFLAGS=-pthread -I. -Wall

binaries=pthread pthread_int pthread_lock_cond pthread_struct

all: $(binaries)

pthread_mult: pthread.c pthread_int.c
	$(CC) $(CFLAGS) $^ -o $@

clean:
	$(RM) -f $(binaries) *.o
```

- Example builds multiple single file programs
  - All target
- pthread_mult
  - Example if multiple source files should produce a single executable
- clean target

CHAPTER 28 – LOCKS

LOCKS



- Ensure critical section(s) are executed atomically-*as a unit*
  - Only one thread is allowed to execute a critical section at any given time
  - Ensures the code snippets are "mutually exclusive"
- Protect a global counter:

```
balance = balance + 1;
```

- A "critical section":

```
lock_t mutex; // some globally-allocated lock 'mutex'
…
lock(&mutex);
balance = balance + 1;
unlock(&mutex);
```


LOCKS - 2

- Lock variables are called "MUTEX"
  - Short for mutual exclusion (that's what they guarantee)
- Lock variables store the state of the lock
- States
  - **Locked** (acquired or held)
  - **Unlocked** (available or free)
- Only 1 thread can hold a lock

LOCKS - 3

- `pthread_mutex_lock(&lock)`
  - Try to acquire lock
  - If lock is free, calling thread will acquire the lock
  - Thread with lock enters critical section
    - Thread "owns" the lock
- No other thread can acquire the lock before the owner releases it.

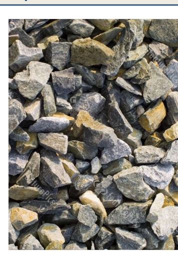
LOCKS - 4

- Program can have many mutex (lock) variables to "serialize" many critical sections
- Locks are also used to protect data structures
  - Prevent multiple threads from changing the same data simultaneously
  - Programmer can make sections of code "granular"
    - Fine grained – means just one grain of sand at a time through an hour glass
  - Similar to relational database transactions
    - DB transactions prevent multiple users from modifying a table, row, field

FINE GRAINED?

- Is this code a good example of "*fine grained parallelism*"?

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock);
a = b++;
b = a * c;
*d = a + b +c;
FILE * fp = fopen ("file.txt", "r");
fscanf(fp, "%s %s %s %d", str1, str2, str3, &e);
ListNode *node = mylist->head;
Int i=0
while (node) {
  node->title = str1;
  node->subheading = str2;
  node->desc = str3;
  node->end = *e;
  node = node->next;
  i++
}
e = e - i;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock);
```



FINE GRAINED PARALLELISM

```
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_a);
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_b);
a = b++;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_b);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_a);

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_b);
b = a * c;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_b);

pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_d);
*d = a + b +c;
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_d);

FILE * fp = fopen ("file.txt", "r");
pthread_mutex_lock(&lock_e);
fscanf(fp, "%s %s %s %d", str1, str2, str3, &e);
pthread_mutex_unlock(&lock_e);

ListNode *node = mylist->head;
int i=0 . . .
```

EVALUATING LOCK IMPLEMENTATIONS

- Correctness
  - Does the lock work?
  - Are critical sections mutually exclusive? (atomic-*as a unit*?)
- Fairness
  - Are threads competing for a lock have a fair chance of acquiring it?
- Overhead

BUILDING LOCKS

- Locks require hardware support
  - To minimize overhead, ensure fairness and correctness
  - Special "atomic-*as a unit*" instructions to support lock implementation
  - Atomic-*as a unit* exchange instruction
    - `XCHG`
  - Compare and exchange instruction
    - `CMPXCHG`
    - `CMPXCHG8B`
    - `CMPXCHG16B`

HISTORICAL IMPLEMENTATION

- To implement mutual exclusion
  - Disable interrupts upon entering critical sections

```
void lock() {
    DisableInterrupts();
}
void unlock() {
    EnableInterrupts();
}
```

- Any thread could disable system-wide interrupt
  - What if lock is never released?
- On a multiprocessor processor each CPU has its own interrupts
  - Do we disable interrupts for all cores simultaneously?
- While interrupts are disabled, they could be lost
  - If not queued…

SPIN LOCK IMPLEMENTATION

- Operate without atomic-*as a unit* assembly instructions
- "Do-it-yourself" Locks
- Is this lock implementation: Correct? Fair? Performant?

```
typedef struct __lock_t { int flag; } lock_t;

void init(lock_t *mutex) {
    // 0 → lock is available, 1 → held
    mutex->flag = 0;
}

void lock(lock_t *mutex) {
    while (mutex->flag == 1)  // TEST the flag
          ;  // spin-wait (do nothing)
    mutex->flag = 1;  // now SET it !
}

void unlock(lock_t *mutex) {
    mutex->flag = 0;
}
```


DIY: CORRECT?

- Correctness requires luck… (e.g. *DIY lock is incorrect*)

Thread1	Thread2
call `lock()`	
`while (flag == 1)`	
interrupt: switch to Thread 2	
	call `lock()`
	`while (flag == 1)`
	`flag = 1;`
	interrupt: switch to Thread 1
`flag = 1;` // set flag to 1 (too!)	

- Here both threads have "acquired" the lock simultaneously

DIY: PERFORMANT?

```
void lock(lock_t *mutex)
{
  while (mutex->flag == 1);   // while lock is unavailable, wait…
  mutex->flag = 1;
}
```

- What is wrong with while(<cond>); ?
- Spin-waiting wastes time actively waiting for another thread
- while (1); will "peg" a CPU core at 100%
  - Continuously loops, and evaluates mutex->flag value…
  - Generates heat…

TEST-AND-SET INSTRUCTION

- C implementation: not atomic
  - Adds a simple check to basic spin lock
  - One a single core CPU system with preemptive scheduler:
  - Try this…

```
int TestAndSet(int *ptr, int new) {
    int old = *ptr;   // fetch old value at ptr
    *ptr = new;       // store 'new' into ptr
    return old;       // return the old value
}
```

- lock() method checks that TestAndSet doesn't return 1
- Comparison is in the caller
- Single core systems are becoming scarce
- Try on a one-core VM

DIY: TEST-AND-SET - 2

- Requires a preemptive scheduler on single CPU core system
- Lock is never released without a context switch
- 1-core VM: occasionally will deadlock, doesn't miscount

```
typedef struct __lock_t {
    int flag;
} lock_t;

void init(lock_t *lock) {
    // 0 indicates that lock is available,
    // 1 that it is held
    lock->flag = 0;
}

void lock(lock_t *lock) {
    while (TestAndSet(&lock->flag, 1) == 1)
        ;        // spin-wait
}

void unlock(lock_t *lock) {
    lock->flag = 0;
}
```


SPIN LOCK EVALUATION

- **Correctness:**
  - Spin locks guarantee: critical sections won't be executed simultaneously by (2) threads
- **Fairness:**
  - No fairness guarantee. Once a thread has a lock, nothing forces it to relinquish it…
- **Performance:**
  - Spin locks perform "busy waiting"
  - Spin locks are best for short periods of waiting
  - Performance is slow when multiple threads share a CPU
    - Especially for long periods

COMPARE AND SWAP

- Checks that the lock variable has the expected value FIRST, before changing its value
  - If so, make assignment
  - Return value at location
- Adds a comparison to TestAndSet
- Useful for wait-free synchronization
  - Supports implementation of shared data structures which can be updated atomically (*as a unit*) using the HW support CompareAndSwap instruction
  - Shared data structure updates become "wait-free"
  - Upcoming in Chapter 32

COMPARE AND SWAP

- Compare and Swap

```
int CompareAndSwap(int *ptr, int expected, int new) {
    int actual = *ptr;
    if (actual == expected)
        *ptr = new;
    return actual;
```

- Spin loc

```
        ; // spin
}
```

**1-core VM:
Count is correct, no deadlock**

- X86 provides "`cmpxchgl`" compare-and-exchange instruction
  - `cmpxchg8b`
  - `cmpxchg16b`

TWO MORE "LOCK BUILDING" CPU INSTRUCTIONS

- Cooperative instructions used together to support synchronization on RISC systems
- No support on x86 processors
  - Supported by RISC: Alpha, PowerPC, ARM
- Load-linked (LL)
  - Loads value into register
  - Same as typical load
  - Used as a mechanism to track competition
- Store-conditional (SC)
  - Performs "mutually exclusive" store
  - Allows only one thread to store value

LL/SC LOCK

```
int LoadLinked(int *ptr) {
    return *ptr;
}

int StoreConditional(int *ptr, int value) {
    if (no one has updated *ptr since the LoadLinked to this address) {
            *ptr = value;
            return 1; // success!
    } else {
            return 0; // failed to update
    }
}
```

- LL instruction loads pointer value (ptr)
- SC only stores if the load link pointer has not changed
- Requires HW support
  - C code is psuedo code

LL/SC LOCK - 2

```
void lock(lock_t *lock) {
    while (1) {
            while (LoadLinked(&lock->flag) == 1)
                    ; // spin until it's zero
            if (StoreConditional(&lock->flag, 1) == 1)
                    return; // if set-it-to-1 was a success: all done
                            otherwise: try it all over again
    }
}

void unlock(lock_t *lock) {
    lock->flag = 0;
}
```

- Two instruction lock

QUESTIONS